CLAIMS

1. Alk(en)yl oligoglycoside betaine esterquats corresponding to formula **(I)**:

$$R^1O(G)_nOCOCR^2R^3NR^4R^5R^6 \qquad (I)$$

in which R^1 is an alk(en)yl group containing 4 to 22 carbon atoms, G is a sugar unit containing 5 or 6 carbon atoms and n is a number of 1 to 10, R^2 is H or a CH_3 group, R^3 is H or a linear and/or branched alk(en)yl group containing 1 to 6 carbon atoms, R^4, R^5 and R^6 independently of one another represent a linear and/or branched alk(en)yl group containing 1 to 24 carbon atoms or a linear and/or branched hydroxyalkyl and/or hydroxyalkenyl group containing 1 to 24 carbon atoms.

2. Preparations as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that alk(en)yl oligoglycoside betaine esterquats corresponding to formula **(I)**, in which R^1 is an alk(en)yl group containing 4 to 22 carbon atoms, G is a sugar unit containing 5 or 6 carbon atoms and n is a number of 1 to 10, R^2 and R^3 are H or a CH_3 group, R^4 and R^5 independently of one another represent a linear and/or branched alk(en)yl group containing 1 to 6 carbon atoms or a linear and/or branched hydroxyalkyl and/or hydroxyalkenyl group containing 1 to 6 carbon atoms, R^6 is a linear and/or branched alk(en)yl group containing 1 to 24 carbon atoms or a linear and/or branched hydroxyalkyl and/or hydroxyalkenyl group containing 1 to 24 carbon atoms, are used.

3. Preparations as claimed in claim(s) 1 and/or 2, characterized in that alk(en)yl oligoglycoside betaine esterquats corresponding to formula **(I)**, in which R^1 is an alk(en)yl group containing 4 to 22 carbon atoms, G is a sugar unit containing 5 or 6 carbon atoms and n is a number of 1 to 10, R^2 and R^3 are H, R^4 and R^5 represent a CH_3 group or a hydroxyethyl group, R^6 is a linear and/or branched alk(en)yl group containing 1 to 24 carbon atoms

or a linear and/or branched hydroxyalkyl and/or hydroxyalkenyl group containing 1 to 24 carbon atoms,
are used.

4. Surface-active preparations as claimed in at least one of claims 1 to 3, characterized in that they contain alk(en)yl oligoglycoside betaine esterquats.

5. Laundry detergents, dishwashing detergents and cleaners and cosmetic and/or pharmaceutical preparations as claimed in at least one of claims 1 to 4, characterized in that they contain alk(en)yl oligoglycoside betaine esterquats in quantities of 0.01 to 60% by weight, based on the active substance content.

6. A process for the production of alk(en)yl oligoglycoside betaine esterquats, in which alk(en)yl oligoglycosides corresponding to formula **(II)**:

$$R^1O(G)_n \qquad \textbf{(II)}$$

in which R^1 is an alk(en)yl group containing 4 to 22 carbon atoms, G is a sugar unit containing 5 or 6 carbon atoms and n is a number of 1 to 10,
are reacted with an α-halocarboxylic acid corresponding to formula **(III)**:

$$XCR^2R^3COOH \qquad \textbf{(III)}$$

in which R^2 is H or a CH_3 group, R^3 is H or a linear and/or branched alk(en)yl group containing 1 to 6 carbon atoms and X is halogen,
and then with a tertiary amine corresponding to formula **(IV)**:

$$NR^4R^5R^6 \qquad \textbf{(IV)}$$

in which R^4, R^5 and R^6 independently of one another represent a linear and/or branched alk(en)yl group containing 1 to 24 carbon atoms or a linear

and/or branched hydroxyalkyl and/or hydroxyalkenyl group containing 1 to 24 carbon atoms.

7. The use of the preparation claimed in claim 1 as an emulsifier.

8. The use of the preparation as a hair conditioner.

9. The use of the preparation as a fabric softener.